

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application claims 2, 4-10, and 13, of which claims 2 and 13 are independent. Claims 1, 3, 11, 12, and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice or waiver of their subject matter.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 2, 4-10, and 13 recite patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. As the Examiner will appreciate, claims 2 and 13 have been rewritten into independent form and Applicants therefore respectfully submit that each of those claims has been placed in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims in the above application depend either directly or indirectly from claim 2 and are therefore patentable for reasons noted above with respect to claim 2. In addition, each recite features of the invention still further distinguishing it from the applied art. Favorable and independent consideration thereof is respectfully sought.

Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding matters in this application have been addressed and that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the above application are respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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